

Sisters' S. C. E.

FROM THE PRESIDENT.

I am now at New Enterprise, at the pleasant home of brother S. L. Buck. Since my last report I visited McVeytown, Altoona and Fredericksburg. At McVeytown, the card announcing my coming was not received until after my arrival, and the membership being scattered, we could have no services Wednesday night. Announcements were sent to the prayer-meetings for Thursday evening, and on that evening, we had a fair house. All things considered, we did not think it practicable to organize an S. S. C. E. and no attempt was made. McVeytown is one of Brother Wampler's mission points. They are making an effort to buy a U. B. church in the town, and we trust they will succeed. There are some self-sacrificing members there, who are ready to do their part. The church is neat, cosy and exceedingly cheap. Yet it will be an effort for the little band of members there to pay for it. Here is an opportunity for some of our churches to manifest some substantial interest in the organization there.

At Altoona, I found a growing little church, full of zeal and enthusiasm. Though they have no church house, they have a very cosy little room for worship and the prospect for their church is very bright. They have a Ladies' Aid Society, which has done good work, and they are now "almost persuaded," to adopt the S. S. C. E. constitution, and be tributary to the National organization. It will be definitely decided at their first meeting. If Mission points like Ridgely, Md., and infant churches like Altoona, Pa., are willing to give a portion of their earnings to help the cause at large, what a standing rebuke it should be to those churches long established, but too narrow hearted and selfish to give to Christ's cause beyond the narrow limits of their own organization. No wonder the limits remain narrow! How can God bless the selfish church with prosperity? Where such churches do survive and even grow in numbers, it must be only because God is willing "to save Sodom for the sake of the ten righteous souls there," for I am glad to say that in every church I have visited I have found some noble large-hearted brethren and sisters.

From Altoona I went to Fredericksburg and there found a wide-awake church, of nearly forty members, with a church house all paid for. Brother Smith, their pastor, was just moving into the town, and the brethren and sisters met him with very substantial greetings. It must be very

cheering to Sister Smith when she looks at five little children to be fed, and then looks into that pantry and sees the where-withal. How can she help but say "Dear Lord, bless the hearts of the givers." On Tuesday evening we talked "Christian Endeavor," and succeeded in organizing a society of twenty-three members, to which others, not present that night will be added. Brother Smith assisted in the work, and will give it his encouragement, and there is little fear of failure, where the pastors give their help and influence. Of course there will be some discouragement; they come in every work, but we must not yield to them. We must press on bravely, faithfully, earnestly, trusting in the strong right arm of him who leadeth on to victory, and victory and success will come.

To-night I hope to be able to organize here. My next point will be Pittsburg and from there I expect to go into Ohio, visiting as many churches as possible in that state.

LAURA E. N. GROSSNICKLE.

FROM CORNELL, ILL.

Our S. S. C. E. meets as we started to, some two years ago, every week on Wednesday, with a fair turn out generally. Some three weeks ago I was elected corresponding secretary for our society, and while I am not much of a writer for the paper, yet I will endeavor to let the S. S. C. E's and others hear from us occasionally, to let you know if nothing else, that we are still in the field endeavoring to draw souls to the Lord Jesus in all the ways possible. On last Wednesday evening we had, as once before a sociable, at Sister Baringers restaurant, where supper was served to all hungry ones at 15 cents each. We had also ice cream and cake. The net proceeds of the two suppers were about \$12 for our treasury, which gives us about \$35. All told, saved up since we began, over and above what we paid out. We, as some other societies, have adopted Sister Beachly's plan for each member to make a piece of work for the next National Convention.

We are glad to see so many good reports from different societies in our brotherhood, and may the good Lord aid us all in doing a grand and noble work, a work that none but God will ever be able to sum up. We are but a feeble little band here, but God being our helper we will endeavor to do what we can. So that when life's journey is ended and we soar away to realms of bliss, to meet our loved ones, it may be said by the righteous judge, Well done thou good and faithful servant, you have done what you could. May God bless the efforts of the S. S. C. E. everywhere, is the prayer of your humble sister in Christ.

April 27. KATIE J. VANDERREE.

The Sunday-School.

JESUS ON THE CROSS.

BY THE EDITOR.

The pupil should study the record of the crucifixion in Matt. 27: 27-54; Luke 23: 26-47; John 19: 16-30. By way of review go over the last scenes of suffering in the life of Jesus—agony in Gethsemane; the betrayal and arrest; the mock trial; Peter's denial; before Pilate, charged with sedition; sent to Herod and mocked by him; condemned and scourged, and mocked by the soldiers; led away to be crucified.

LESSONS FROM THE CRUCIFIXION.

1. The drink was offered to Jesus in kindness. The loving, tender-hearted women offered this last act of kindness to mitigate his sufferings, and his refusal meant no disrespect to them. Christ appreciated such acts of loving devotion to him. But he would drink to the bitter the cup which his Father gave him. Nor would he cloud his mind, dim the clearness of his communion with the Father by anything that would dull his senses and thus impair his full consciousness.

2. What sin is that which requires the crucifixion of the son of God, and what wondrous, divine love must that be which goes to such a depth as the cross to save souls! This also shows the worth of human souls, for would Jesus pay such a price to redeem them if they were not of priceless value to him?

3. On the day of Jesus' crucifixion there were three crosses set up, and each one has its own lesson for us. Behold the three crosses: On the centre cross hangs the Savior, dying for the sins of the world, and wonderful were the scenes of those awful hours. On one of the other crosses we have dying penitence, and Jesus, in the throes and agonies of death, snatches a soul from the jaws of hell, and makes him happy in the joys of Paradise. On the other cross we see dying impenitence. Both were equally near to Jesus, one was taken, the other left. One saved, the other lost.

4. The cross of Jesus is the highest expression of God's infinite love to man. There can be no stronger motive to draw men to the Father than the cross with all that it means to God and man. Christ himself said, "And I, if I be lifted up will draw all men unto me." The chief elements of attraction are love, truth and righteousness.

If men would not sin, there would be no problems of life.